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WMU gathers for Missions Celebration

By William H. Perkins Jr.
Editor

Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) members and supporters gathered on October 8-9 at Emmanuel Church in Grenada for their Annual Missions Celebration, highlighted by missionary presentations, messages from Mississippi Baptist Convention Board leaders, and ministry exhibits.

The celebration's theme, "Faithful — Forward," reflected 125 years of service by Mississippi WMU, which was founded across town at First Church, Grenada. A special dinner was held at First Church to commemorate the founding.

Among the missionaries attending the celebration were Tony and Nell Gray and their daughters Karen and Katie, who serve in Brazil with the International Mission Board (IMB) of the Southern Baptist Convention. The Grays addressed God's Plan Through the Generations during a missionary family panel discussion.

Burt and Suzanne Schmitz, who serve with IMB in western Africa, also addressed the attendees on the subject, Faithful — Forward by Obeying His Call.

Wanda Lee, executive director-treasurer of the national WMU auxiliary in Birmingham and a registered nurse, spoke at the plenary sessions and also led a break-out session entitled, Nurses Can Make a Difference. Sharon Neff read selected passages from her recently-published book on the history of Mississippi WMU entitled, Embracing God's Plan: 125 years of Mississippi WMU.

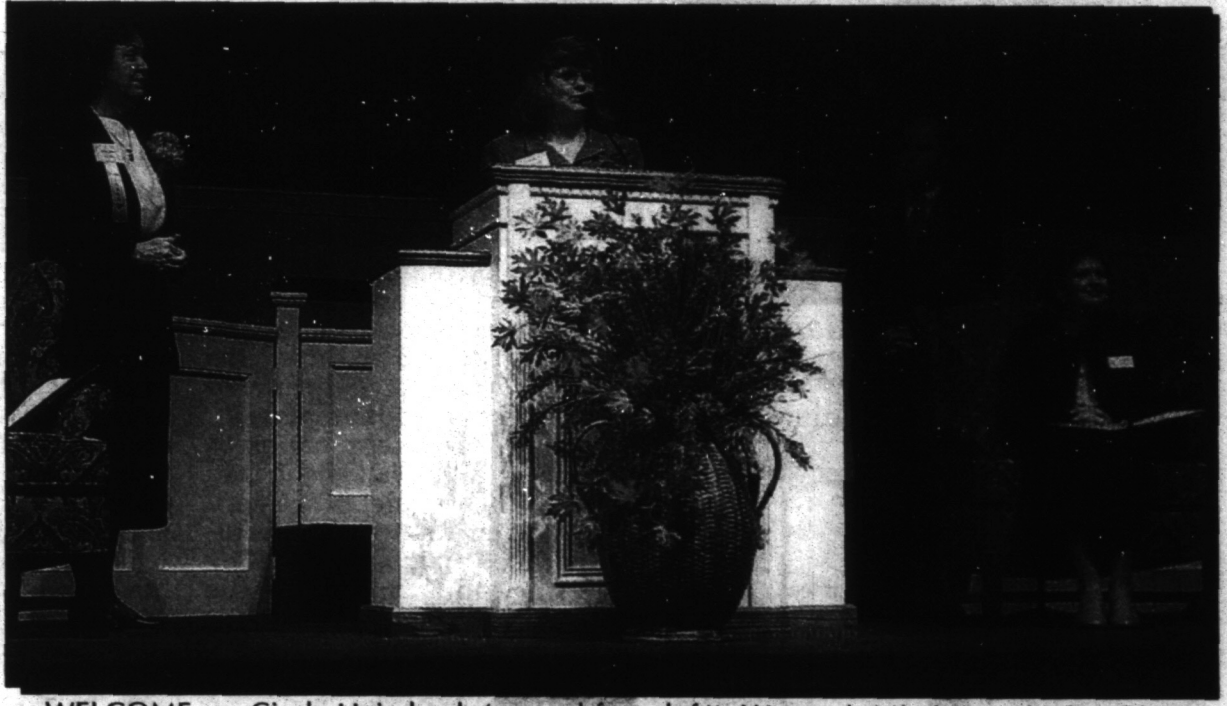
Mandisa Hundley, a Christian vocalist from Nashville and member of the Beth

Moore worship team, was the featured soloist and worship leader. The Mississippi Singing Churchmen also performed.

Lucy Bullock Trigg, age 93, a member of Union Church, Seminary, was recognized at the celebration as the oldest living GA reported to the Mississippi WMU Department.

New WMU officers for the coming year include Betty Davis of McComb, president; Sharon Neff of Arcola, vice president; and Vivian Taylor of Clara, secretary.

Davis gave high marks to the 2004 Missions celebration and called on Mississippi Baptists to remain involved



WELCOME — Cindy Heimbach (second from left), Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) director at Emmanuel Church, Grenada, and wife of Emmanuel Church minister of education Eugene Heimbach (back right), greets Mississippi WMU members gathered from across the state on October 8 for the beginning of the 2004 Missions Celebration at the church. Looking on are Betty Davis (left) of McComb, Mississippi WMU president; and Kay Cassibry (front right), Mississippi WMU executive director-treasurer. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

in the Kingdom work that is ahead. "The Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union 125th Annual Missions Celebration was a wonderful time for all of us to evaluate our faithfulness to the Lord. It's not enough to recount past accomplishments, fondly remembering those leaders and their dedication to missions.

"Now, we must look to the future and do 'Our Best' to witness, lead, serve, and train others who will follow our examples. We must truly be Christ Followers!

"May God receive all the glory for anything that was done during our meeting in Grenada. 'Faithful — Forward!'" she said.

Mississippi WMU Executive Director Kay Cassibry said the celebration lifted

the spirits of all who attended and worshipped. "It was great to see so many of our women, and men, who have made significant contributions to the work of WMU for so many years.

"While there was definite reason to celebrate the past, it was encouraging to feel the excitement they showed for moving into the future.

"Even though the next 125 years will look totally different than the last, we are ready to see what God has for us to do to continue to be a viable missions avenue to sharing the Gospel," she said.

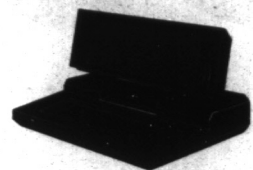
The Mississippi WMU's 2005 Missions Celebration will be held April 8-9 at First Church, Biloxi.

WORLDCRAFT SHOPPING
— Inspecting the merchandise available for purchase at the WorldCrafts exhibit October 8 during the 2004 Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union Missions Celebration at Emmanuel Church, Grenada, are (from left) Nan Gordon, member of Temple Church, Grenada; Becky Winters, member of Calvary Chapel, Parchman; and Amanda Johnsey, member of First Church, Coffeeville, and granddaughter of Gordon. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)



TALKING MISSIONS — Wanda Lee (standing), executive director of the national Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) auxiliary in Birmingham, addresses participants during a break-out session on October 8 at the 2004 Mississippi WMU Missions Celebration at Emmanuel Church, Grenada. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



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The results of the October 9 elections in Afghanistan aren't yet known, but one thing is certain — that nation's citizens relished their first opportunity ever to participate in self-governance. About 10 million Afghans were registered to vote, and the turnout may exceed an astounding eight million.

Many voters-to-be walked hours to reach the polls and then stood in line for several more hours before casting their ballots and beginning their long walk home. It seems the Afghan people were determined to exercise their newfound right, with almost total disregard for the very real terrorist threat to their safety. Some Afghans even went through ritual bathing and got their affairs in order, because they did not expect to survive if they tried to cast a vote.

Violence did find them. A vehicle in which five election workers were traveling exploded in the southeastern province of Paktika on election day, killing everyone inside. Officials aren't sure whether the attack was aimed at disrupting the elections or was caused by one of the millions of leftover mines and other munitions that litter the Afghani countryside. Scattered mortar attacks were also reported.

The Afghans' determination to vote is reminiscent of the fall of the Iron Curtain, when the people of eastern Europe enjoyed their first true opportunity to vote in more than 50 years. They poured into the polls and, like the Afghans, waited for hours under dangerous conditions to cast their votes.

Year after year, story after story, a truth emerges: people yearn to be free. People are willing to risk everything for a shot at self-determination and self-governance. What a

Get out and vote

shame that Americans don't take their opportunity — yea, their responsibility — to vote as seriously as people who have never had the chance to do so. What a shame that we go to the polls in such small numbers that the best candidates are often thwarted and poorer candidates are elected by special interests and voting blocs. What a shame that American voters are too lazy or apathetic or preoccupied to do their duty. The excuses are legion. Some folks don't want register and risk being called for jury duty (an editorial subject for another day). Some folks think their vote is only going to be cancelled out by someone who votes for the other candidates. Some folks whine about being turned off by the nastiness of politics. Some folks just dismiss the whole process as a waste of time.

Voting is important. As we watch our beloved country drift farther and farther from its founding principles, making sure our government hears the concerns of Christian citizens is crucial to the future direction of our country.

As radical elements of American society press for homosexual marriage, polygamy, normalization of pedophilia, legalization of drugs, offensive subject matter in schools, and a whole host of other destructive changes in our way of life, who is to stand in their way?

Christians, that's who. Let's get ourselves informed and go to the polls on November 2. That's the only way we'll ever be taken seriously by those elected to office. A good place to start is www.iVoteValues.com, a joint effort of the Ethics and Religious Commission of

the Southern Baptist Convention and several other evangelical groups to inform Christian voters of the stakes in the upcoming election. In accordance with the law, the iVoteValues effort is non-partisan and does not endorse any particular candidates.

Many learned historians and other intellectuals refer to our American system of self-governance as the "Great Experiment," so unique it is in the annals of human history. We should respect that experiment, now more than 225 years old, enough to participate by voting. The long term effects of not doing so are, quite literally, unimaginable.

GUEST OPINION:



Servants through stewardship

*By Scott Wiggers, chairman
Miss. Baptist Cooperative Program
Budget Committee*

Jesus contrasted heavenly values with earthly values when he explained that our first loyalty should be to those things that do not fade away, cannot be stolen or used up, and will never wear out (Matthew 6:19-21). It has been my privilege to serve this year as chairman of the Mississippi Baptist Cooperative Program Budget Committee and witness these words of our Lord being put into action.

Much prayer and study has gone into the budgeting process for 2005. The proposed 2005 Mississippi Cooperative Program Budget is \$31,314,491 — an increase of \$459,520, or 1.49%, over our current budget. As proposed, the 2005 budget allocates funding at the following levels:

- Southern Baptist Convention: \$10,960,071, or 35% of the proposed budget, an increase of \$160,831, or 1.49%, over this year's budget.

- Agencies and Institutions (Christian education and benevolent institutions): \$7,738,838, or 24.71% of the proposed budget, an increase of \$151,681, or 2.00%, over this year's budget.

- Mississippi Baptist Convention Board: \$11,669,898, or 37.27% of the proposed budget, an increase of \$152,760, or 1.33%, over this year's budget.

- Shared Responsibility (Church Annuity Plan): \$945,684, or 3.02% of the proposed budget, a decrease of

\$5,752, or 0.6% from this year's budget.

I want to highlight some of the updates in the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board section of the proposed 2005 budget.

There is a decrease of \$159,989 in the Church Planting Department, which results mainly from the transfer of responsibilities to the Evangelism Department for prison ministry, deaf ministry, seamen's ministry, and trucker's ministry. This shift will enable the Church Planting Department to sharpen its focus, as its program budget for 2005 now relates directly to new church plants.

The Church Planting Department, in conjunction with local associations, is currently cultivating and supporting 34 new church starts — with several more in the development stage. Other sources, primarily the generosity of giving to the Margaret Lackey State Mission Offering, have taken up the financial sup-

port for new church starts and allowed Cooperative Program dollars to be allocated to other ministries that are in need of adequate funding.

One of those areas in need of additional Cooperative Program dollars is the Evangelism Department, which now has responsibility for the programs shifted from the Church Planting Department. The Evangelism Department's allocation, which has been increased \$96,927 in the proposed 2005 budget, is directly tied to those new responsibilities.

Evangelism continues to be a priority for Mississippi Baptists and with the transfer of responsibilities in the proposed 2005 budget, we believe our convention's evangelistic ministries will be more cohesive and better positioned to reach and serve all Mississippians.

The allocation in the proposed 2005 budget for Gulfshore Assembly in Pass Christian has been reduced by \$135,676, which

reflects an anticipated increase in participation and is not a reduction in programs or events offered at Gulfshore. The assembly will continue to minister to guests of all ages through a variety of events. Good stewardship of their resources and sustained growth in attendance will allow a shift of Cooperative Program support in 2005 to other ministries.

Through September 30, 2004, Mississippi Cooperative Program receipts totaled \$23,413,767 — \$272,539 above budget. Should the 2004 or 2005 budgets be exceeded, the additional dollars will be portioned 50% to Christian Education, 25% to International Missions, and 25% to New Church Starts in Mississippi.

We believe the proposed 2005 Mississippi Cooperative Program budget provides a God-honoring, equitable distribution of available Cooperative Program funds between all causes supported by Mississippi Baptists. The budget will be presented during the convention's business session on the afternoon of October 26, with discussion and a vote by messengers scheduled for the business session on the morning of October 27.

On behalf of the budget committee, I invite your attendance and participation.

Wiggers, president and chief operating officer of M&F Bank, is a member of First Church, Kosciusko.

Rankin, McDonnall testify to challenge, risk

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP) — Midwestern Seminary students were recently presented with a profound challenge and a living example of the sacrifices of missionaries.

The challenge came from International Mission Board (IMB) President Jerry Rankin, a native Mississippian, who exhorted Midwestern's students to step out of the safety and comfort of American materialism.

The example came from Iraq shooting survivor and IMB worker Carrie McDonnall. Both were speaking on campus during Global Missions Week September 27-October 1.

Less than seven months ago, a tragic attack in Iraq left McDonnall's husband and three other IMB workers dead and herself in a coma. McDonnall testified to a full chapel audience about God's grace. When God calls believers to make a great sacrifice, she said, He carries them through it.

"The events of March 15 and 16 shattered my life, my bones, my world, and my view of God, which really isn't a bad thing," McDonnall said. "[But] I come today to tell you, to make sure you know that He who calls us is faithful.

"I didn't come to this conclusion overnight. I have wrestled, I have struggled, I have pleaded to sweet Jesus, I have clung to His Word and by His grace I can stand here and say, He is faithful, He is love, and yes, our God is sovereign."

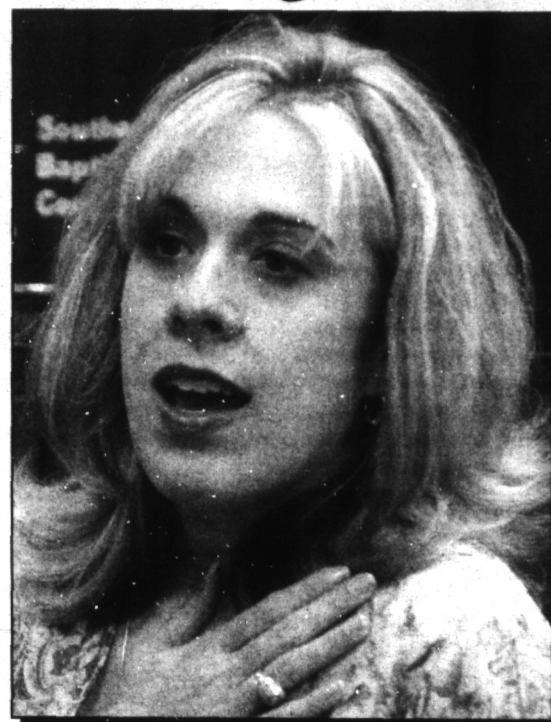
McDonnall walked away from the Midwestern pulpit to a standing ovation.

"The Lord spared her so she could testify of His grace, love, purpose and calling," said Midwestern Seminary President R. Philip Roberts. "Her testimony of faith in and love for Jesus Christ is an example to us all."

Rankin challenged the audience to be "one of whom the world is not worthy."



Rankin



McDonnall

He referenced the great sacrifices of McDonnall and missionary martyrs William Koehn, Martha Myers, Larry and Jean Elliott, and Karen Watson.

Hospital administrator Bill Koehn and surgeon Martha Myers, along with supply manager Kathy Gariety, were murdered on December 30, 2002, by a radical Islamic gunman at the Jibla Baptist Hospital in Yemen. Midwestern Seminary's north campus is named after Koehn and Myers, both Midwestern graduates.

The Elliotts, Karen Watson, and Carrie McDonnall's husband David were killed on March 15 in the drive-by shooting near Mosul, Iraq, that left her clinging to life.

After those tragic losses, Rankin said, the number of people that came forward to

answer the call to missionary service did not decrease, but increased.

"In the aftermath of such instances, we have influxes of people who say, 'I need to give my life,'" Rankin said of the commitments Christians make to go into a hostile world.

God did not call Christians to safety, but to obedience in reaching the world with the Gospel," Rankin said.

"We need to explode the prominent myth that the safest place in the

world is in the center of God's will," Rankin said. "The only place to be is in the center of God's will, but it's not about our safety. It's the safest place to be to ensure God's glory."

Missionaries like the Elliotts shunned a more prosperous life in America to follow the call of obedience, Rankin said.

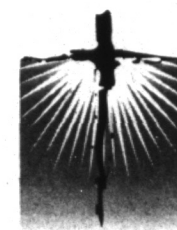
"I can guarantee you, one thing the three adult children of Larry and Jean Elliott are not doing in the aftermath of their [parent's] death — they didn't have to get together and decide how to divide an affluent inheritance," Rankin said. "No, they didn't accumulate this world's good but like Moses, they choose to turn their back on what the world has to offer in order to go and identify with the people of Iraq."

At the end of the chapel service, Rankin read a portion of a two-page handwritten letter from Karen Watson, which was to be opened in the event of her death. In the letter, Watson wrote: "To obey was my objective, to suffer was expected, His glory was my reward, His glory is my reward."

Said Rankin: "I want to call you to a deeper commitment, not to ministry, not to missionary service. I want to call you to a deeper commitment to be one of whom the world is not worthy."

Record fine set

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The Federal Communications Commission has proposed a record total of \$1.2 million in fines against 169 Fox Television Network affiliates for airing indecent material during an episode of the reality program *Married by America*. The FCC announced Oct. 12 that it would fine each affiliate \$7,000 and it made a distinction between the taped episode of *Married by America*, which could have been preempted, and the live Janet Jackson incident at the Super Bowl in February. The Fox affiliates that chose not to air the reality program were not fined. In September, Viacom and its CBS stations were fined \$550,000 for the controversial Super Bowl halftime show. That amount had been the largest fine for indecency in television history until the Fox ruling. *Married by America* is a reality-based television program in which several single adults agreed to be engaged to and potentially marry each other, even though they had not previously met. The episode in question, which aired April 7, 2003, focused on the Las Vegas bachelor and bachelorette parties for the remaining two couples, according to the FCC report. During the six-minute segment, various sexual acts involving strippers were depicted. Fox defended the segment by saying all nudity was pixilated, but the FCC said "even a child would have known that the strippers were topless and that sexual activity was being shown." The FCC received 159 complaints in response to the show, and the government agency voted 5-0 in favor of fining the stations. The report called the material "gratuitous, vulgar, and clearly intended to pander to and titillate." The FCC is finally starting to listen to an outraged public, Brent Bozell, president of the Parents Television Council, said in a statement. PTC filed a complaint about the show. "We applaud the FCC for holding all Fox affiliates responsible for airing the filthy and indecent broadcast. We've been demanding this for years and it's high time that every licensee is held accountable for their actions." Federal regulations are intended to prevent television and radio stations from airing indecent material, which is usually sexual in nature, except during late-night hours when children are less likely to be watching or listening. The FCC noted that *Married by America* aired prior to 10 p.m. ET. The FCC's full report is available online at www.fcc.gov.



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

THE
SECOND
FRONT PAGE

THE BAPTIST
Record

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Looking back

10 years ago

Christians must find ways to minister in communities that have been radically altered by legalized gambling, say speakers at the Ministry in a Gaming Community at Gulfshore Assembly in Pass Christian. Records indicate calls for police service in Gulfport increased 53% in one year.

20 years ago

Dedication ceremonies are held at the new Baptist Book Store location in Jackson's Westland Plaza, with officials of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board describing the new facility as the "first Baptist superstore."

50 years ago

A record attendance of 417 is recorded for the statewide WMU Clinic for district and associational officers conducted at Camp Garaywa, according to Edwina Robinson, WMU executive secretary.

Bibliocipher

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ITFG YFJFUYFK Q ITF
NAYK AX ITF PAYK, TAN
ITSI TF RSQK, ZATG
QGKFFK USQIQCFK NQIT
NSIFY; UDI WF RTSPP UF
USQIQCFK NQIT ITF
TAPW MTARI.

SEIR FPFBCG: RQLIFFG

Clue: M = G

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: John 3:12

SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS

It is a Word from God according to the heart and the pen of the Psalmist that we are to **serve the Lord with gladness**. Have you seen some of those folks who are serving the Lord with gladness at your church recently? They are not always easy to find and to somewhat paraphrase Brother Shakespeare, "There are millions of drops in the ocean and a few of them sparkle." At times the glad folks will be singing and sometimes they will be preaching. Sometimes they will be handing out bulletins and welcoming guests. Sometimes you will find them hidden back in the preschool area changing diapers, crawling around with creepers, or just joyfully watching toddlers as they bump and bounce on the floor. Occasionally, you will find them serving on a committee and sometimes they will just be sitting there on a pew.

While I cannot find sound scriptural basis for doing so, at times I have seen saints **serve the Lord with madness**. To be honest I have watched as the most energized moment that some people experience is their anger about something. It is out of their inflamed emotions that they spend hours on the



Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

phone, make visits, come to church, and push to get their way accomplished. It is both strange and perplexing to me that some people who will not come to church to worship, to work, to extend the Kingdom, or to encourage a brother will show up when they get mad enough. What is equally strange is the fact that so rarely do you see good things come out of those bad feelings.

At times I have also seen people **serve the Lord in sadness**. Some people do not want to be where they are doing what they are doing, but they go ahead and serve anyway. Recently, I was passing by a construction site where the workers were gathering together to begin the day's activities. I walked by and said, "Good morning. You guys are fixing to get with it, aren't you?" One of them said, "Yep!" One of them said, "Well, I hope not. I hope it is going to rain so I can go back home." I thought to myself

how many people are on work sites all across the land and they don't want to be there? The job is not intriguing, the motivation is not fulfilling, and while their body is there going through the motions, their heart and mind is off somewhere else. Surely all of us go through those kinds of moments, but it certainly should not dominate our experiences in life and certainly not in the Lord's work. What a blessing it is to be alive and what a privilege it is to serve the Lord.

Back to the Psalmist's original thought, "Serve the Lord with gladness." Isn't that good? What does it do to you? How does it encourage, inspire, move, and lift you when you see someone serving the Lord with delight? Though the Psalmist is not asking us to serve the Lord excluding all the other feelings and emotions that we may have in life, there is to be a prominence in our service that expresses gladness.

I am not talking about the kind of giddy, made-up sort of stuff that shows up when you walk on the stage and is totally absent when you are walking down the street. I am not talking about the kind of worked-up emotional frenzy that makes you appear to be happy for a moment and then there is no gladness when you get in your car. No, what the Bible is addressing is a kind of consistent, ongoing realization that God is in control whatever else may seem to be blowing in the wind. The great "I Am" has committed to us His love, His sustaining power, His ongoing oversight in our lives, and He is not going to forsake us or leave us. I am talking about the kind of joyful notes that may not be found in any hymn book but can be found rolling around in your heart looking for a place to get out because you know who you are, whose you are, and where you are headed.

Jesus said to His disciples, "These things have I spoken unto you that my joy might remain in you and that your joy might be full" (John 15:11). Lord, come and touch my heart, fill me with your joy, and let it overflow to bless someone else. Amen!

The author may be contacted at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. E-mail: jfutral@mbcb.org.

Orchestra pleasant surprise for Miss. Baptists

By William H. Perkins Jr.
Editor

David Young is often surprised that Mississippi Baptists are often surprised that they have their own statewide symphony orchestra. "I call it one of Mississippi

Baptists' best-kept secrets," said Young, conductor of the 400-member Mississippi Baptist Symphony Orchestra and the instrumental consultant for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB) Church Music Department.

"We have a core group of about 45 Mississippi Baptist musicians, and then we have musicians from south Mississippi who join us when we perform in the south part of the state and musicians from north Mississippi who join us whenever we perform in their part of the state. We can have 80 musicians at a performance," he said.

The orchestra supports other Mississippi Baptist musical programs, such as the Mississippi Singing Churchmen. Young is the instruments of praise director for that group, which travels internationally to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through music.

The Mississippi Baptist Symphony Orchestra is only the latest venture in Young's 36-year music career, which includes 32 years as a band director and 10 years as orchestra director at Baptist-affiliated William Carey College in Hattiesburg. He and his wife Sandra are members of First Church, Laurel.

"God gives everybody talent of some kind, and we all need to praise Him with those talents. I believe music is a way to move people closer to God, and that's why the Mississippi Baptist Symphony Orchestra is such an important ministry," Young said.

MBCB Church Music Director Graham Smith said the Mississippi Baptist Symphony Orchestra is one of "less than a handful" of such programs across the

Southern Baptist Convention. Smith provides narration for many of the orchestra's performances.

"The Mississippi Baptist Symphony Orchestra began as a dream to accompany the statewide presentations of God with Us and God for Us. The response was so overwhelming, with 142 and 176 participants respectively, that we felt the Lord was breathing new life into an opportunity for both past and present instrumentalists to resurrect and use their gift to the glory of God," Smith said.

Young stays busy. As instrumental consultant in the MBCB Church Music Department, he is available to assist Mississippi Baptist churches in starting new orchestra programs or managing existing orchestra programs. He has also compiled a library at the Baptist Building in Jackson to help churches with orchestra music needs, and he directs the statewide Mississippi Baptist symphony program for youth. In addition to those duties, he manages church music conferences for the MBCB Church Music Department.

The orchestra's October 3 performance at First Church, Byram, featured a special first-time performance with clarinetist Darko Velichkovski, the former conductor for the Jackson Symphony Orchestra and a graduate of the Julliard School of Music in New York City. His performance resulted in a standing ovation.

"We hope it won't be the last time he performs with us," Young said.

The Mississippi Baptist Symphony Orchestra plays a limited number of performances each year. For more information on how to join the orchestra or how to reserve a performance date, contact Young at MBCB Church Music Department, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3266 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 266. E-mail: dyoung@mbcb.org.



IN CONCERT — Darko Velichkovski (above) performs with the Mississippi Baptist Symphony Orchestra (right) on October 3 at First Church, Byram. Velichkovski, a Julliard School of Music graduate and former conductor of the Jackson Symphony, also gave his testimony and received a standing ovation after his solo performance. David Young of Laurel conducts the orchestra. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)



2004 MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

AND ASSOCIATED MEETINGS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25

• **Baptist Health Systems/Baptist Behavioral Health** is sponsoring a booth in the exhibit hall during the Convention to provide information, including how to begin a Congregational Health Ministry and Congregational Church Nursing.

• **Associational Missions Directors Conference**, 10 a.m., Camp Garaywa. Hosted by WMU, which will provide lunch and a program. Contact: Paul Blanchard at (662) 773-3366.

• **MBREA Fall Luncheon**, 10:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Pinelake Church, Brandon. Theme: "Eating the Elephant - Making Big Tasks Manageable." Contact: Dionne Williams, (228) 832-4311 or e-mail dwgcb@cablone.net.

• **Mississippi Baptist Minister's Wives Conference**, 1:15 - 4:45 p.m., fifth floor, First Church, Jackson. Gaye Martin, motivational speaker, Summerfield, Fla., speaking.

• **Mississippi Baptist Pastors' Conference**, 1:30 p.m. Program personalities include Dean Stewart, D. J. Benson, John Merk, "Step" Martin, Jerry Doggett, Ronnie Cottingham, and Ken Adams.

• **Lay Missions Conference**, 3 p.m., First Church, Jackson. Contact: Carol Wright at (601) 292-3334 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 334. E-mail: cwright@mbcb.org.

• **Lay Missions Banquet**, 5 p.m., First Church, Jackson. Taylor Field, Church & Community Ministries Missionary, East 7th Baptist Ministry (Graffiti), New York City. Pure Gospel, First Church, Madison, music. \$8.50 per person. Contact: Carol Wright at (601) 292-3334 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 334. E-mail: cwright@mbcb.org.

• **Mississippi Baptist Pastors' Conference**, 6:30 p.m. Program personalities include Dean Stewart, Ronnie Cottingham, Fred Wolfe, Ken Adams, John Phillips, Junior Hill, and Cecil Hathorn.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26

• **Associational Missions Directors and Seminary Extension Directors breakfast**, 7 a.m., Baptist Building Chapel. Vivian Buttrey, director, SBC Seminary Extension Centers featured. Contact: Kay McDonnell at (601) 292-3305 or toll-free outside Jackson, (800) 748-1651, ext. 305. E-mail kmcdonnell@mbcb.org.

• **Annuitants breakfast**, 7:30 a.m., First Church, Jackson, Fellowship Hall West. Contact: Carol Taylor at (601) 292-3227 or toll free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 227.

• **Mississippi College Christian Service Alumni Prayer Breakfast**, 7:30 a.m., chapel dining room, First Church, Jackson. Breakfast is complimentary. Lee Royce, MC President, speaking. Contact: MC Alumni office, (601) 925-3228.

• **Missions Mobilization Booth**, Exhibit Hall, October 26-27, will have three guests present to discuss areas of mission work for volunteers: Shane Crister, New Hope, New York; Richard Logsdon, Maryland/Delaware; and Insoo Park, Central Asia.

• **Blue Mountain College Ministerial Alumni Dinner**, 5 p.m., Galloway Methodist Church (305 North Congress Street). Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at the Blue Mountain College exhibit. For more information contact Randy Hamilton at (662) 837-3166 or Ron Meeks at (662) 685-4771, ext. 179.

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION FIRST SESSION, 8:25 A.M.

• **Southwestern Seminary Alumni Luncheon**, noon, Capital Club, 125 S. Congress St., Jackson. \$12 per person. Contact: Mark Vincent at (601) 635-4445 or Rebecca Lynn Campbell at (817) 923-1921, ext. 7260.

• **New Orleans Seminary Alumni Luncheon**, noon, First Church, Jackson. Speaker: Chuck Kelley, President, NOBTS. \$10 per person. RSVP to Nathan Barber, c/o Covington-Jefferson Davis Association, 310 Hwy 35, Collins MS, 39428, (601) 765-4689.

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION SECOND SESSION, 1:30 P.M.

• **William Carey College Jubilee Appreciation Reception** for Mississippi Baptists and Friends, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., dining room, first floor, Christian Life Center, First Church, Jackson. Drop by Carey exhibit during the convention for more information.

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION THIRD SESSION, 6:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27

• **Bivocational Ministers and Wives Breakfast**, 7 a.m., Baptist Building Chapel. Contact: Kay McDonnell at (601) 292-3305 or toll-free outside Jackson, (800) 748-1651, ext. 305. E-mail kmcdonnell@mbcb.org.

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION FOURTH SESSION, 8:25 A.M.

• **Convention Meeting of the Mississippi Council on Bivocational Ministries**, immediately after the close of the last convention session, Baptist Building, Room 309. Leaders include Keith Gordon, Dale Holloway, Ken Cook, Joe Young, and Steve Stone. Lunch provided. Contact: Kay McDonnell at (601) 292-3305 or toll-free outside Jackson, (800) 748-1651, ext. 305. E-mail kmcdonnell@mbcb.org.

REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2004 Mississippi Baptist Convention will take place on the second floor above the State Street entrance at First Church, Jackson. Messengers may begin registering at noon on Monday, October 25. Registration will resume at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 26, and Wednesday, October 27.

CONVENTION OFFICE

The Convention Office will be located across from the registration area (see above). Incoming telephone messages will be received at (601) 949-1924, and will be posted at the convention office. An outgoing telephone line will be available for local and long distance (credit card only) calls. Lost and Found will be located at the Convention Office.

PARKING

Parking is available within walking distance of First Church, Jackson, with lots open at the Baptist Building, in First Church's parking lots surrounding the church, and in a church parking lot at the corner of High and State Streets. **In order to facilitate the daily ministries of First Church, Convention attendees are requested not to park in the church's Christian Life Center lot or garage.** A parking lot on North Street directly behind the Christian Life Center will be available for Convention parking.

Parking with free shuttle service will also be available at the Clarion Hotel and the Mississippi State Fairgrounds, directly across Greymont Street from the Clarion Hotel (see map on this page). Shuttle will begin at 12:30 p.m. on October 25 before the first session of the Pastor's Conference and continue as needed until 10 p.m. The shuttle will run October 26 from 7:25 a.m. to 9:45 p.m., as needed. On October 27, the shuttle will run from 7:25 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., as needed.

Convention attendees are urged to cross streets only at designated crosswalks. Attendees are also cautioned against over-parking on meters and illegal parking. Tickets issued by the Jackson Police Department cannot be forgiven. Improperly parked cars may be towed. Many parking lots in the area are government or privately-owned, and parking is not recommended in those reserved lots.

HOST HOTEL

The host hotel for the 2004 annual session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention is The Clarion Hotel at 400 Greymont Avenue in Jackson. Special room rates are \$60 per double room (including tax). A special buffet breakfast price of \$4 is available to conventioners. Be sure to mention the Mississippi Baptist Convention rate when making reservations and ordering the breakfast buffet. To make reservations or for more information, contact the hotel at (601) 969-2141.

DISPLAY AREA

The display area and the LifeWay bookstore will be located in Fellowship Hall East on the ground level floor of First Church, Jackson. Convention attendees are invited to browse the displays and the items at the bookstore.

CHILDCARE

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board will sponsor childcare for the 2004 annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention (MBC) and related events at First Church, Jackson, beginning at noon on October 25 for the Mississippi Baptist Pastors' Conference and the 2004 Mississippi Baptist Pastors' Wives Conference. Childcare will close immediately after adjournment of the final session of the convention at 11:30 a.m. on October 27.

Pre-registration is required. To pre-register, call First Church, Jackson, at (601) 949-1997. Childcare procedures are as follows:

• Pre-registration must include name of child/children, name of parents, and home church.

• A security card will be issued for each child upon arrival.

• All belongings must be labeled.

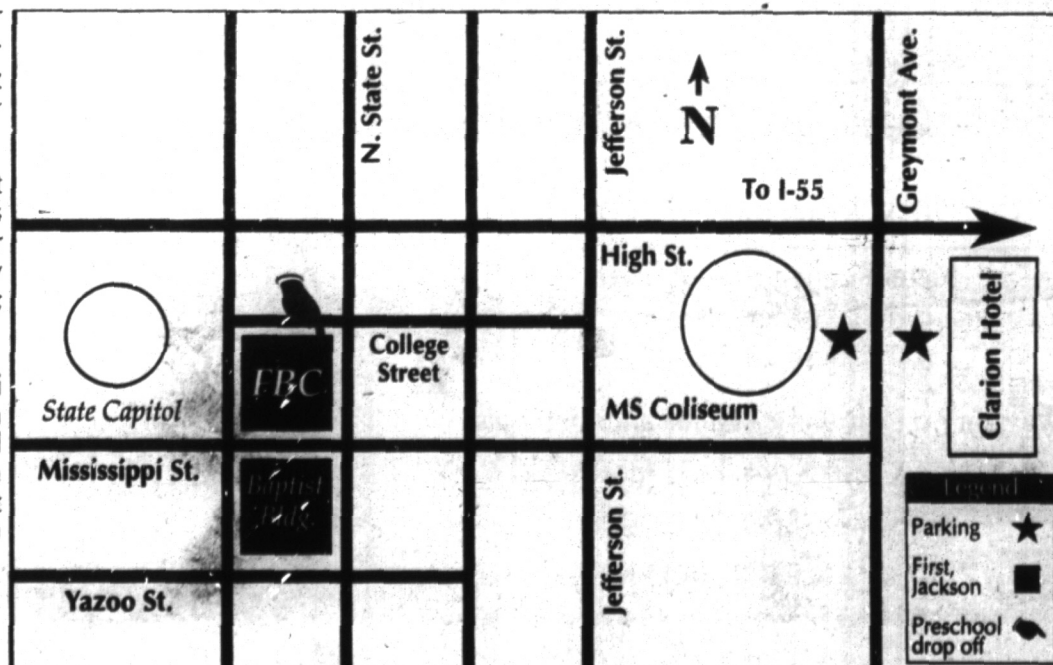
• For infants, a feeding schedule must be presented at the time of arrival.

• Children may be dropped off no sooner than 15 minutes before the beginning of a session and must be picked up no later than 15 minutes after the session adjourns.

• Children may remain in the preschool area during the convention lunch break on Tuesday, October 26, if parents provide a sack lunch.

The church's preschool department is located at the drive-through just off the intersection of State and College Streets, north of the church Skywalk.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board wishes to thank the Preschool Ministry of First Church, Jackson, for providing administrative support and childcare personnel. Childcare is funded by gifts to the Mississippi Cooperative Program.



Conference set at First Church, Olive Branch

The Ministry of Reaching and Encouraging (MORE) is sponsoring Soul Refreshment, an energizing weekend of worship, learning, and fellowship, on Nov. 19-20 at First Church, Olive Branch. The conference will be led by several of the Mid-south's leaders and teachers, including P. J. Scott, pastor of First Church, Olive Branch, and MORE founder and president; Jim Futral, executive director/treasurer, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; and Mike Spradlin, president, Mid-America Seminary. The conference begins with dinner at 5:30 p.m. on November 19, and concludes 11:50 a.m. on November 20.

Twelve "water break" conferences will be offered, including the Refreshing Word from the Pulpit; Intimate Prayer; the Visionary Leader; Growth and Sunday School; Finding Contentment as a Pastor's Wife; The Staff's Role in Growth; and Church Planting from Growth, among others.

Northwest Association in Hernando, the Mississippi Baptist Convention, and MORE have made it possible for this event to be presented free of charge for pastors and staff members. The only cost not covered is lodging and other travel expenses. Scholarships to cover lodging are available.

For more information, contact P.J. Scott at (662) 895-5766 or e-mail pastor@fbcob.org.

HOMEcomings & REVIVALS DATES

Bethel, Newton: Homecoming and Revival October 24-27; Sunday, 11 a.m., dinner on the grounds following; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m. nightly; Jim Sanders, preaching; Sue Bush, music.

Richmond, Tupelo: Experiencing God Weekend Revival October 22-24; Fri., 6 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.; Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Cascilla, Cascilla: Homecoming October 24; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 10:45 a.m.; meal will follow; Tom Blythe, former pastor, speaking; Hearts of Praise and Jordan Rainey, music; Thomas Bruce, pastor; everyone is invited.

Morrison Heights: Prayer Revival October 24-27; God's Blueprint for Revival; Sunday, 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 6 p.m.; Mon., 6:30 p.m.; Tues., senior adult luncheon at 11:30 a.m., and 6:30 p.m.; Wed., women's and men's luncheons at noon, and 6 p.m.; Rob Finley, speaking; guests are welcome; tickets for the women's and men's luncheon are \$5 and must be purchased by noon Monday.

New Hope, Sumrall: Homecoming October 24; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; wor-

ship, 11 a.m.; covered dish luncheon at noon; afternoon worship, 1:15 p.m.; Burl Patterson, Mobile, Ala., and George Gerald Aultman, speaking; Charles Broome, pastor; all are welcome.

Cooke Memorial, Houka: Homecoming October 31; worship, 10:30 a.m.; lunch will follow; singing, 1:15 p.m.; Junior Ritchie, speaker; Jimmy Blackwood and The Holcomb Sisters, musical guests.

Daniel Memorial, Jackson: 69th Anniversary October 24; Bible Study, 9:15 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.; dinner on the grounds, 11:30 a.m.; Gary White, guest speaker; Allen Sims, guest worship leader; all are welcome.

Salem, Tylertown: Homecoming October 24; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.; a covered dish lunch will follow; singing, 1:30 p.m.; Ricky Gray, Flowood, Flowood, guest speaker; Rob Schepers, music; Mark Wicker, pastor.

Sandersville, Sandersville: Homecoming October 24; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; a covered dish luncheon will follow; H.D.

(Bud) Swindall, former pastor, guest speaker; Phillip Swindall, guest musician; Donnie Parker, pastor; all are welcome.

Maybank, Hattiesburg: Homecoming October 24; Sunday School, 9 a.m.; worship, 10 a.m.; covered dish lunch, 11 a.m.; concert, 12:30 p.m.; Scott Murphy, preaching; George Aultman, former pastor, poem reading; Shallow Creek, singing; Bob Robinson, pastor.

County Line, Ovett: Homecoming November 6 and 7; Sat., 3 p.m.; Sunday, worship at 10:45 a.m., dinner on the grounds following, afternoon service at 1:30 p.m.; former pastors and music directors will be participating.

Cranfield, Roxie: Homecoming October 31; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship and music, 10:45 a.m.; lunch will follow; Roy Main, guest speaker; all are invited.

Lilly Orchard, Escatawpa: 47th Anniversary October 24; worship, 9:45 a.m.; dinner on the grounds will follow; Bob Storie, preaching; Heartsong, Mobile, Ala., singing; Terry L. Long, pastor; all former members are invited; a nursery will be provided.

McDonald, Leake: Homecoming November 7; worship, 11 a.m.; lunch following; Keith Mangum and Jerry Williams, pastors.

Lowery Memorial, Blue Mountain: 125th Anniversary November 5-7; Fri., dinner at 6 p.m., 7 p.m.; Sat., concert at 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. including commendation from the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission, lunch following, and 2 p.m.; Matt Buckles, First, Vicksburg, Bill Peacock, former pastor and retired missionary from the IMB, and Tim Crosby, former pastor, speaking; Landmarks, music; Tom Sumrall, pastor.

OBITUARY

Elven Fairchild, known as "Uncle Al", of Moselle died September 23.



Fairchild

The funeral was held at Moselle Memorial Church, Moselle, with Billy Murphy, AMD, Lamar Association, officiating.

Keith Thompson is pastor. Fairchild's casket was draped with a Christian flag in honor of his 57 years of ministry.

Fairchild spent over twenty years serving as pastor of churches in Mississippi,

Alabama, and California. After being called to full-time evangelism, he spent another twenty years traveling across the U.S. using object lessons in preaching. He made seventeen mission trips to India. He conducted crusades, planted churches, and began a Christian school. During one of his trips he became a paraplegic, but he continued to travel and minister.

He is survived by his wife, Molly; three daughters, Ann Marie Anderson, Marsha Sue Lott, and Emma Ruth White; one son, Samuel David; eleven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Betty Rose Adcock and Carolyn Parker.

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Davis Construction

MISSISSIPPI POSITIONS

MAIN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, Goodman, Miss., is currently seeking a full-time pastor. A traditional SBC, resident membership 95. Send resumes or contact to Main Street Baptist Church, pastor search committee, Billy May, chairman, P.O. Box 206, Goodman, MS 39079.

IS MUSIC YOUR MINISTRY? Do you have a heart for youth? Immanuel Baptist Church, Vicksburg, Miss., is accepting resumes for minister of music/youth/education. Send to personnel committee chairman, Immanuel Baptist Church, 6949 Hwy 61 South, Vicksburg, MS 39180.

BOLTON BAPTIST CHURCH, BOLTON, MISS., resident membership around 100. The church is currently seeking a full-time pastor. Please send resumes to pastor search committee, PO Box 297, Bolton, MS 39041. "A small church with a big heart."

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NEXT RIGHT

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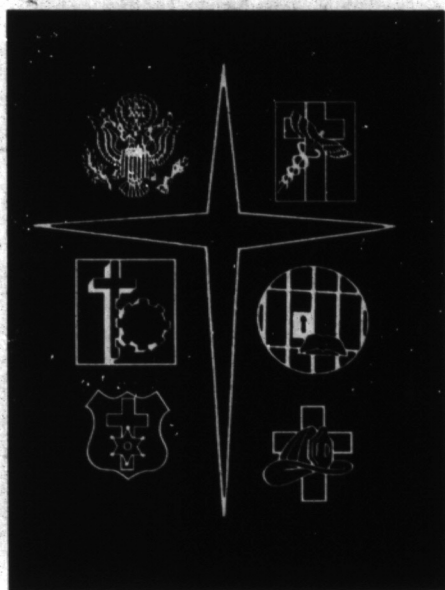
What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

October 21, 2004

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.



Mississippi Baptist Chaplain's Association Annual Fall Banquet

October 26, 2004
4:45 p.m.

Baptist Building, Skyroom
515 Mississippi Street
Jackson

All chaplains,
volunteer and
career, are invited
to join us for a good
barbeque dinner
and fellowship.

Speaker
Pete Sharber
Director of Chaplaincy Division
North American Mission Board

The banquet is no cost to chaplains and spouses who have
paid their dues to the Chaplain's Association for 2004/2005.
For nonmembers of the association, the cost is \$8 each.

For more information:
Call Elaine Smith
1-800-748-1651
601-292-3278



2005 State Evangelism Conference In Christ's Steps

January 24-25
Temple Baptist Church, Hattiesburg

Women's Track



Rhonda Kelley*
Keynote Speaker
NOBTS President's Wife
Professor of
Women's Ministry
Leavell College



Karen Fisk
Worship Leader
Minister of Music
Sylvarena Baptist Church
Wesson

Testimonies: Evelyn Williams, Hickory
Janet Rayford, Crestwood New Life
Ceal Pate, FBC, Greenwood

For more info, contact the Mississippi WMU
601-292-3316 or 1-800-748-1651, ext. 316

Mississippi
Senior Adult
Mini-Chautauqua

FBC, Hattiesburg, Nov. 7 - 9

\$10 per person for all sessions (fees include notebook and pen)
\$5 if attending one session and \$5 for pen & notebook

Call 601-544-0100, ext. 229, or www.firstbaptistchurch.org

Sponsored by FBC, Hattiesburg, and
MBCB Discipleship and Family Ministry

SPEAKERS

Bill Tolar, Fort Worth, Texas
Don Stewart, Hattiesburg
Glenn Shows, MBCB
Music by Five Senior Adult Choirs

Youth Minister's Workshop

November 8-10, 2004
Lake Tiak O'Khata, Louisville

Stuart Hall
Speaker

Jason Elam
Worship Leader

Make your motel/meal
reservation with
Lake Tiak O'Khata.

Please preregister
your attendance with
the Youth Team.

For registration form
or information:

E-mail: redwards@mbcb.org
Phone: 1-800-748-1651, ext. 283

SUIT PROJECT

Get all decked out!

Mississippi Baptist Convention
"Get all decked out" to
participate in the 2004
Mississippi Baptist Convention

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

For all women who are serving in the ministry, we are looking for ways of letting the pastors know that we care about and support their work.

What is your plan?

Men's Ministry, GA, and WMU groups, individuals,
churches, and their gifts are needed for:

Mississippi Baptist Convention
Mississippi Baptist Department
Mississippi Baptist Convention
Mississippi Baptist Convention

Cost: \$130 per person
Designate on your

Sponsored by the
Mississippi Baptist Department
Mississippi Baptist Convention

SPECIAL MINISTRY FOR THE PASTORS' WIVES

If funds are available,
we will send clothing
gift certificates for the
wives.



Saturday, November 13
Colonial Heights BC
Jackson

9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

GA Missions Madness ...

EACH GA AND LEADER NEED TO BRING:

- a sack lunch (drinks & dessert are provided)
- money for our missions offering
- toiletry items for the seamen's center (toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, lip balm, 5-stick packs of chewing gum, emory boards, breath mints, soap, deodorant, 10-tissue pocket pack of tissues)
- one bottle of finger nail polish for every GA

(Registration 8:30 a.m.)

Register by October 29

Cost \$6 per person

(after Nov. 1, if space is
available, \$8)

There must be one leader for
every five girls.

For more info, or a registration form, please contact the Mississippi WMU at
1-800-748-1651 or E-mail nmason@mbcb.org

*Sing Praise
to God*

*Celebrating 60 Years of Church
Music in Mississippi
1945-2005*

STATE YOUNG
MUSICIANS
CHORAL FESTIVAL

An Exciting Time
of Praise and Worship
Mississippi College Coliseum
Clinton
April 16, 2005
8:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

For more info, contact
the Church Music Department
1-800-748-1651 or 601-292-3271

*Mississippi Baptist
Ministers' Wives
Conference*



OUR GUEST SPEAKER

Gaye Martin

October 25, 2004
First Baptist Church, Jackson
(Fifth Floor)
1:15 to 4:45 p.m.

For more info:
Contact the Pastor/Leadership
Development Department
Phone: 800.748.1651. ext. 305
or 601.292.3305
E-mail: kmcdonnell@mbcb.org

th
ACTS 1:8

Empowering the Church to Be On Mission

2005 BAPTIST DOCTRINE STUDY PREVIEWS
with Nate Adams

• Main Street BC, Hattiesburg Jan. 17, 2005 9 a.m.-noon	• FBC, Clinton Jan. 18, 2005 9 a.m.-noon	• Central Hills Baptist Retreat Jan. 20, 2005 9 a.m.-noon
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Preregistration requested
Cost \$10 - includes registration
for the preview, brunch and a
copy of the study course book

Nate Adams
vice president
Missions
Mobilization,
NAMB
and author of
this year's
doctrine study
book

For more info, contact the MBCB Discipleship and Family Ministry
Department at 1-800-748-1651 or 601-292-3284.

Wade Morris
Speaker
Lake Gullidge
Worship Center
A View From the Branch
of Discipleship

A.E. WOOD COLISEUM
MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE, CLINTON
DECEMBER 30-31, 2004

Pray this day for...

October 22 - November 11, 2004

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 601-292-3304 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-7729 (PRAY)

In your private prayer times, what is the evidence that you are truly connecting heart to heart with God? What are some things that God has told you lately in your conversations with him?

For: (1) Mission Service Corps Annual Meeting, Camp Garaywa, Clinton (MM); (2) Team Munich members in Germany ask you to pray for God to show them five to 10 co-laborers with whom they can partner in reaching Munich for Christ.

Pray for the 25+ volunteers who will serve through the tent ministry in a poor neighborhood in Brazil, for missionaries David and Laurie Bledsoe as they coordinate this effort, and for the local Brazilian church members who will be participating and doing follow-up.

Pray for a young Russian-speaking couples' Bible study group that started this fall in Tallinn, Estonia. Pray for "I" as he leads the study and for God to teach these young families how to live lives that will be a witness for Him.

For: (1) Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Baptist Building, 10 a.m.; (2) Lay Missions Conference Banquet, FBC, Jackson, 3-7:30 p.m. (MM & WMU); (3) Ministers' Wives Conference, FBC, Jackson, 1:15 - 4:45 p.m. (P/LD).

For: (1) RA Week, 1st-7th (MM Emphasis); (2) Baptist Women's Day of Prayer (WMU); (3) Praise the Lord that the Gaelic version of the Jesus film has been completed! Ask the Father to use this tool in a mighty way in the harvest of souls among the Gaidheil of Scotland.

For: (1) Youth Ministers' Workshop, Lake Tiak O'Khata, Louisville, 8th-10th; (2) Ask God to give Baptist university and technical school students in China's major cities a burden to reach their own people for Christ instead of joining English-language churches.

For: (1) Chaplains Fall Banquet, Baptist Building, Sky Room (CPD); (2) Associational Missions Directors & Seminars Extension Directors Breakfast, Baptist Building, Jackson (P/LD); (3) Mississippi Baptist Convention, 26th-27th, FBC, Jackson.

In September, Billy Graham broadcasted a three-day evangelistic campaign in Ecuador. Some of the emerging leaders invited neighbors into their homes to hear the gospel. Pray that the fruit of this effort will result in new church starts in the rural area.

Many Baptist churches in southern Taiwan struggle with internal issues which impacts the local church, influences surrounding communities and the Taiwan Baptist Convention as well. Missionary Donna Burns requests prayer for our churches to be one in spirit, allowing Christ to be Lord.

For: (1) Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Baptist Building Chapel, Jackson, immediately following the last session of the convention; (2) Bi-vocational Ministers' Wives Breakfast, Baptist Building, Jackson, 7-8 a.m. (P/LD).

For: (1) Baptist Building STAFF AT HOME DAYS, 3rd-5th; (2) Please pray for Governor David Hollainby of Saint Helena (South Atlantic Ocean midway between South America and Africa).

The people of Colima live in Mexico's Heart of Darkness, which is in the West Central Region of Mexico. The city of Colima is the capital of the third-smallest state in the country, with a population of 220,000. Please pray for the evangelization of the people of Colima.

The new team in Milan, Italy, needs prayer for visas to be granted in a timely manner for future team members. This critical need must be met in order for new team members to be allowed to enter Italy and focus on various people groups in Milan.

For: (1) Campers On Mission Rally, Clearwater RV Park, Carriere, 4th-7th (MM); (2) New missionaries Eric and Lacey Perkins and their three daughters had been in Uruguay only two weeks when they received news that Lacey's mother had suddenly passed away. Pray for them.

The Maninka Team of West Africa requests prayer for crucial, strategic personnel requests that are waiting to be filled. They will fulfill vital roles on the Maninka Team and have the potential to create new opportunities for the Maninka people to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.

For: (1) G.A. Mother/Daughter Overnight, Camp Garaywa, Clinton, 22nd-23rd (W/TO); (2) Serena Butler, Normal, Ill., is the campus minister at Illinois State and Illinois Wesleyan Universities. Pray that the students will be open to the gospel.

The Student Ministry Team around Paris, France, requests fervent prayer to know God's vision for reaching the student population of Paris. Pray for appealing and creative ways to share the gospel in the English-language clubs, social activities, and Bible studies.

For: (1) International Student Conference, 5th-6th (CLGM); (2) Preschool-Children's Leadership Festival, FBC, Biloxi, 5th-6th; (3) Ask the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of national believers in Munich, Germany, that they would reach out to the lost.

Don Morgan, Fort Worth, Texas, is a Nehemiah project director for church planting at Southwestern Seminary. Pray for 20 more students to respond to God's call to train as church planters in North America, especially those willing to minister in a cross-cultural setting.

John Mark Hansen was director of missions for the Nebraska Northeast Baptist Association. He and Cheryl have been appointed to Central America. Pray for continued strength in the church planting effort, for bi-vocational church planters, and for smooth transition of associational leadership.

Pray for the 27 people who attended the "What Baptists Believe" conference for the Lozi people group of Zambia and Namibia led by retired missionaries Mike and Kay Norfleet. Pray that they will share what they learned with others. Pray this will begin a Church Planting Movement.



Missions Mobilization CELEBRATION

Friday, Nov. 12, FBC, Jackson, 425 North State St.

- Celebration Banquet - 6:30 p.m.
- Mobilization Displays - Ukraine
- Music by Mississippi Singing Churchmen
- Ukraine Guests
- International Mission Board Guests

Saturday, November 13
Baptist Building, Jackson

Team Leaders for 2005

- Continental Breakfast - 8:30 a.m.
- Devotional
- Planning Ukraine Emphasis

You are invited to this exciting time of celebrating what God is doing through Mississippi volunteers. You will meet and hear the stories of many of these volunteers.

Banquet Cost: \$10 Reservations are required by November 4.
Call 601-292-3398 by Nov. 4.

Ukraine

Encourage a MK with a birthday card!

1/18/84

MISS JESSICA CLARK

Parents: Richard & Wanda
Church Planting; Central & Eastern Europe

1/21/97

MR. CALEB E. HOLYFIELD

Parents: Michael & Patricia
Church Planting; Central & Eastern Europe

1/5/93

MISS MELEAH D. PEACOCK

Parents: Kevin & Brenda
Theological Education; Middle America

1/26/89

MISS HANNAH M. RAY

Parents: Michael & Linda
Strategy; Central & Eastern Europe

1/25/89

MISS STEPHANIE J. YOUNG

Parents: Steven & Laura
Student Evangelism; Middle America

PLEASE NOTE

Church members may send a package of cards together; cards do not have to be sent individually to Stewardship.

FOR SECURITY, cards will be forwarded. Please send all to:
Child's name and parent's name, MBCB Stewardship Dept.
PO Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205



HOUSE TOPS

JUST FOR THE RECORD

Parkview Church, Greenville, held a Christmas in August banquet to promote their adult Christmas Cantata to be presented in December. Pictured (from left) are Mike



Parkview Church Christmas in August, Greenville



Pleasant Grove Church Bible Drill, Chickasaw

McIlwain, minister of music, choir officers and banquet sponsors, and Arlis Nichols, Enterprise, banquet entertainer.

The GAs of Dumas Church, Dumas, collected socks, brownie mixes, men's care items, and more for donations to the Global Maritime Ministry, Reserve, La., for their Christmas in August mission project.

Bill Spruell of Wade Church, Moss Point, received a Sunday School perfect attendance award for 58 years recently. Pictured (from left) are Spruell and Richard Bradshaw. Bill Barton is pastor.

Pleasant Grove Church, Chickasaw Association, held VBS recently. Pictured are the participants.

Pleasant Grove Church, Chickasaw Association, participated in children's Bible Drills recently. Pictured (from left, front) are Ashley Pounds, Suzie Reese, Thomas Brown, Peyton Callahan, (back) Prudy Gilder, leader. Jeff Gilder is pastor.

Janice Church, Brooklyn, will hold a Turkey Shoot October 23 at 9 a.m. Plate lunches will be available. Call (601) 598-2519 or (601) 598-2628 for more information.

Steve Walker will be in concert October 24 at 11 a.m. at Enon Church, Winston Association. Charles Rook is pastor. Walker will also be in concert October 24 at 6:30 p.m. at Neshoba Church, Neshoba Association. Johnny Collins is pastor. Admission is free, but a love offering will be received. For more information, contact (601) 847-4375 or www.stevewalker.org.



GAs of Dumas Church, Dumas



Bill Spruell and Richard Bradshaw, pastor



Pleasant Grove Church VBS, Chickasaw Association

Advertisement

Mississippi Baptist Minister to Host

Alaska Cruise

And Pacific Northwest Vacation

On July 24, 2005, join your Spiritual Director, Baptist Minister Rev. Dennis Daniels on this 15-day vacation including a seven-day deluxe Alaska Cruise with Holland America Line and a seven-day Pacific Northwest vacation with Your Man Tours. Devotions will be made available daily while on board ship for those in the group who wish to participate. Rev. Daniels is Senior Adult Pastor of The First Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi. He has also led tour groups on a variety of vacations over the years, including an Alaska Cruise.

Your group will fly into Salt Lake City starting a six-night motor coach tour of the Pacific Northwest visiting Salt Lake City (including the Mormon Tabernacle, Beehive House and Great Salt Lake; Idaho Falls; Jackson Hole, Wyoming; Grand Teton and Yellowstone (Old Faithful) National Parks; Montana; Lake Coeur d'Alene; the Grand Coulee Dam; Washington; the Cascade Mountains; and British Columbia. In Vancouver you will board your five-star ship HAL's ms Zaandam.

Next travel through a wondrous maze of forested island and glacier carved fjords, past charming coastal villages, migrating whales and calving glaciers to Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan and spectacular Glacier Bay.

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Staff Changes

Keith Donald Warden, Montgomery, Ala., accepted the call of pastor at First

Church, Picayune, effective October 17. He has served churches in Texas and Alabama. He comes from

Ridgecrest Church, Montgomery, Ala. Warden is a graduate of Samford University, Southwestern Seminary, and Beeson Divinity School.

JUST FOR THE RECORD

The children's choir of **Grandview Church, Pearl**, recently presented Hallelujah Heart. Mike Hennington is the music director and Wade Chappell is pastor.

Canaan Church, Philadelphia, held a picture taking recently as they began their last year toward the 100th anniversary celebration scheduled for September 21, 2005. The church is in an extensive fundraising drive for a new worship center that will meet the needs of Choctaw Indians, Rolling Hills subdivision, Mississippi Choctaw Indian Reservation. Donations can be made to Calvin Isaac, Building Fund Drive Chairman, Canaan Baptist Church, 10231 Road 604, Philadelphia, MS 39350-8323, with checks payable to Canaan Baptist Church Building Fund Drive. For church information, call (601) 656-5136. Arthur Ben serves as part time pastor.

First Church, Batesville, will present Heaven's Gates and Hell's Flames November 7-

9 at 7 p.m. nightly. Admission is free. For more information, call (662) 563-7655.

Highland Church, Natchez, will host the singing group Chosen November 7 at 6 p.m. All are invited. David McGuffee is pastor.

Maybank Church, Hattiesburg, will present Shallow Creek in concert October 24 at 12:30 p.m. Everyone is invited. A love offering will be taken.

New Salem Church, Columbus, will hold Harvestfest October 31 from 5-8:30 p.m. There will be candy, treats, games, a cake walk, hayride, bonfire, and weiner roast. Children and parents are welcome.

The First Church, Magee, Vardaman Runnell's Boys Sunday School of the 1940's held their annual reunion October 7. Everyone enjoyed looking at the scrap book from past reunions. Flowers were placed in the sanctuary in memory of the Vardaman



Canaan Church, Philadelphia

Runnels, Billy Kennedy, Mayo Mangum, and Joe McNair by the class.

New Hope Church, Foxworth, held homecoming October 3. Kent Campbell, former pastor, brought the message and Monroe McManus led music. Hosanna was in concert during evening worship. A special offering, One Hundred More in 2004, encouraged giving to the building and renovation loan. A total of \$8,865 was received.

A reception was held honoring **William Hales, AMD, Choctaw County**, and his wife, Violet, May 23 at Ackerman Church, Ackerman. Hales has served as AMD for 9 years. He served on the committee to start the Broken Wings Ministry and involved county churches in mission work in Africa where he served as a missionary.

Black Jack Church, Yazoo Association, will present a reunion concert October 24 at 7 p.m. with Louis Smith, pastor, and three ministers of music who served with him. They are Rick Greene, First Church, Madison; Allen Harris, North Oxford Church, Oxford; and David Prevost,

Calvary Church, Tupelo. Shari Hurt, First Church, Madison, is the accompanist.

New Fellowship Church, Hickory, ordained **Andre Dyess** as a deacon October 5. Pictured (from left) are Robert Rowzee, pastor, and Dyess.



MISSISSIPPI
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COLLEGE NEWS

The William Carey College (WCC) student newspaper, **The Cobbler**, placed second overall out of 21 colleges at the 2004 Baptist Press Student Journalism Conference held recently in Nashville, Tenn. WCC stu-

dents also claimed eight individual awards for their work on the paper. Pictured (from left) are Tiffani Lowe, Bobbie Borne-Smith, Amanda Eady, Jennifer Malone, Heather Clark, B.J. Stout, and Anne Brinkman.



William Carey College Cobbler Staff



Robert Rowzee, pastor and Andre Dyess



Children's Choir of Grandview Church, Pearl

65th Anniversary & Homecoming Southside Baptist Church • Jackson, MS

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Dr. Jeffrey R. Parker, Pastor
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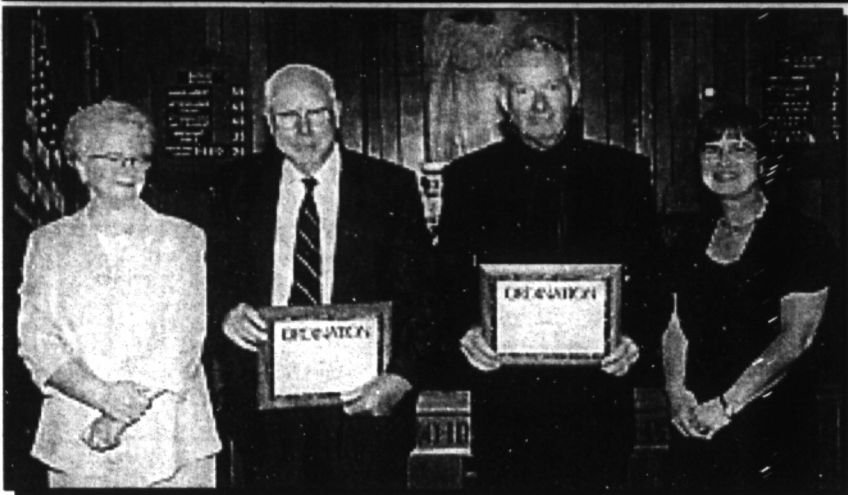


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The Church Place



NAMES IN THE NEWS



Mary & Frank Baucum and Rick & Mary Holsonback

Poplar Springs Church, Newton, recently held a deacon council and ordination service to install **Frank Baucum** and **Rick Holsonback** as deacons. Pictured (from left) are Mary and Frank Baucum, and Rick and Mary Holsonback.

The **WMU of Mantee Church, Mantee**, recently held a recognition service for the mission friends, GAs, and acteens for their past year's accomplishments. **Ann Millsaps** was honored for her 23 years as the church WMU director. Former WMU direc-



Mt. Horeb Church Groundbreaking, Collins

tors present were also recognized. All are pictured.

Mt. Horeb Church, Collins, celebrated the groundbreaking of their new sanctuary September 19. Completion is expected in May or June 2005. Pictured are the church members.

Benton Church, Benton, ordained **Phillip Pope, Sr.** as a deacon September 26. Pictured (from left) are **Charles Moore**, pastor, **Pope**, and his wife **Mary K. Pope**.



Lisa & Greg McNeese and Randy & Mathinee Spencer



Charles Moore, pastor and Phil and Mary Pope

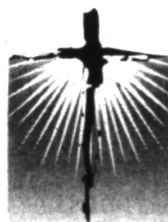
Smithville Church, Smithville, licensed **Randy Spencer** to the ministry and ordained **Greg McNeese** as a deacon October 17. Pictured (from left) are **Lisa and Greg McNeese**, and **Randy and Mathinee Spencer**.



Acteens of Mantee Church, Mantee



Mantee Church WMU Directors, Mantee

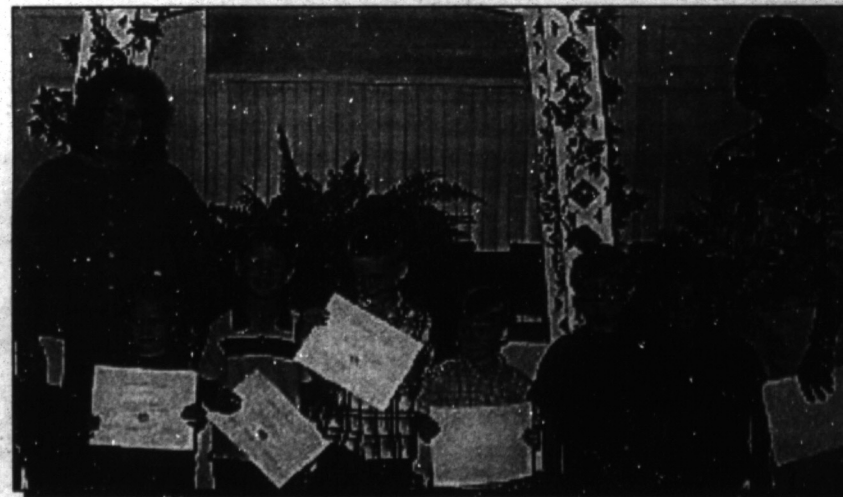


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GAs of Mantee Church, Mantee



Mission Friends of Mantee Church, Mantee

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FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Reaching for Real Life

Matthew 19:16-30

By Geneva England

A young college student returning from a mission trip testified that he never knew what "real joy" and satisfaction meant until he helped lead a young person to Christ. His face glowed with his newfound inner excitement. Real life occurs only when we dwell in the safe arms of Christ and do His will.

Matthew 19 records Jesus' encounter with the rich young ruler [so called by Luke] when he sadly refused Jesus' instructions for real life happiness and eternal salvation. Rather, he wanted to do "good" (v. 16) to earn eternal life. He claimed that he had always kept the Mosaic laws, such as obeying his parents and loving his neighbor as himself. His claim to perfection

can be seen in his self-righteous question: "What lack I yet?" (v. 20).

Jesus told him that "only One" person has obtained perfection—only one is worthy of eternal life—"No one is good—except God alone" (Mark 10:18). By citing several of the Ten Commandments to the rich young man, Jesus explained the impossibility of anyone obtaining perfection and earning salvation by law-keeping (Matt. 19:18-19).

If indeed he could have kept all the commandments as he professed, Jesus instructed him then to sell all his possessions and share with the poor. This instruction exposed his selfishness, for he certainly had no desire to share his wealth with the poor. Apparently, his heart strings were attached to his pocket strings! Christ's invita-



England

tion, "Come, follow me" (v. 21) offered this rich man a way unto real life, real salvation.

The analogy of a camel going through a needle's eye further emphasizes the impossibility of man's efforts to save himself through good works apart from God's divine provision.

The disciples' question, "Who then can be saved?" alludes to the prevailing belief among the Jews that the wealthy enjoyed their wealth because God had blessed them more than He had blessed the poor. Like the young ruler, most Jews during Christ's ministry viewed the law as a means to salvation.

Yet "with God all things are possible" (v. 26), even redeeming a rich man. Only God can soften the hard heart and bring the rebellious person to repentance. Luke 1:37 confirms this: "For nothing is impossible with God." God's sovereignty permeates the entire Bible. The Old Testament prophet, Jeremiah, had earlier

declared, "Nothing is too hard for you [Sovereign Lord]" (32:17).

Jesus taught the disciples and us several lessons through this story: it is hard for those more interested in their financial well being than their souls to enter the kingdom of heaven. Why? Because they are trusting in their money or possessions or success—or all three! To trust any other than Christ is a perverted gospel. Yet, the difficulty of a wealthy person entering heaven does not lie in his or her possessions; for many notable servants of God are praised in the Bible despite their wealth, such as Job, Abraham, Joseph of Arimathea, and others.

Another lesson is never let materialism blind our need for Christ, for prayer, for study of the Bible, and for applying biblical principles to our lives. Reaching genuine life fulfillment means serving God with all our hearts, minds, souls, and bodies. In the future everyone will be called on to account for the works done for Christ's kingdom, not for salvation—but because of salvation.

Lastly, this text teaches that

those who have sacrificed the most will be rewarded the most. The disciples willingly left their occupations to follow Jesus and were promised: "you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones," but His promise does not stop with the disciples. It extends to "everyone who has left houses...or father or mother or children or fields for [Christ's] sake"; they will be rewarded on earth plus inherit eternal life (Matt. 19:28-29, NIV). With this promise comes the warning that God's judgment and rewards are not according to humanity's method of measurement (v. 30).

Today, many willingly serve God at home and on the mission fields. They are buoyed by verses 26 and 29. The sad, rich young ruler's encounter with Jesus should convince us that real life comes not from material possessions but from devotion to our Lord.

England is a member of First Church, Grenada.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Receive Jesus as Savior

Luke 8:4-21

By James Walters

I had been saved for just a few months and was excited, growing in my faith. Old friends from high school were the first audience for my clumsy first efforts at evangelism. I invited a good friend to church. Freddie sat next to me in the pew and heard the same glorious sermon I heard. "He must be about ready to give his life to Christ," I thought. At the end of the service I asked, "Freddie, wasn't that the best sermon you have ever heard? What do you think?"

"Well," he paused, searching for a polite response. "It was okay." Too stunned to say anything I walked out of church with him. The sermon was not "okay," it was great! Why wasn't Freddie as moved as I was?

In the Parable of the Sower Jesus said the sower scattered good seed. The differing results

for the scattered seed corresponded to the differing capacities of the soil into which the seed fell. Not every kind of soil can allow the seed to take root and grow to maturity.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND, LUKE 8:8-10; ISAIAH 6:9

Those who heard Christ speak responded in a variety of ways. Sometimes people became angry while others were filled with joy. To the same sermon different responses were recorded in the New Testament, but we can notice the same thing nearly every Sunday. Assume for a moment the message is on salvation, tithing, or divorce. Not everyone who says "Good sermon, Pastor," may mean it, but many do. Some people out of anger may leave church by another exit so they won't have to see



Walters

the preacher. The same message, preached at the same time, by the same person yields differing responses.

Some of those who responded to Christ in a favorable way at first were not to be found in a month or two. They fell away. The crowds shouting "Hosanna!",

as Christ entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, were shouting "Crucify Him!" before the week was out. Of the thousands who were blessed by Christ and demonstrated affection for Him only about one hundred and twenty were present when the church gathered in an upper room in Jerusalem after His resurrection and ascension (Acts 1:15). Where had everyone gone? They certainly gave an impression of having made a good start in the right direction.

Some listeners were content not to understand what Jesus said in His parable of the sower. Some were satisfied with not being able to see more. The disciples, however, wanted to understand the mysteries

about which Jesus spoke and were given additional instruction which deepened their understanding of the parable. Those who had little or no appetite for instruction in righteousness were left in their ignorance; they hardened their heart and closed their mind.

ARE YOU PRODUCTIVE, LUKE 8:11-15

Don't misunderstand the Parable of the Sower. Never should it be thought that those whom Christ has redeemed might become lost all over again, and that is not what this parable teaches. Only one type of soil in this parable leads to salvation. Four types are noted, therefore, three conditions out of the four illustrate lack of saving faith.

In verse 5, some seed fell beside the road. The packed earth of the roadbed is no good place to grow. The soil cannot be penetrated before some bird eats the seed or some person tramples the life out of the seed. In verse 6, some of the seed fell in the shallow soil between the rocks. There was a momentary greening of life, but because there was too little

soil to accommodate the full potential of the seed, the plant died. In verse 7, some seed fell among the thorns where the plant was choked. Hard soil, thin soil, not-enough-to-sustain-life-soil will not allow God's kind of life to develop and thrive. In verse 8, the good soil (tilled, weeded, fertilized, watered) is receptive to the Gospel seed, and will enable the plant to become as big as God needs it to be.

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

How is the Gospel growing in our life? I'm convinced some weed is competing for the soil our faith needs to grow on. How deep do our convictions go? Is depth an option for us? Does Christ prefer us to be deep or shallow thinkers? In some way Satan is trying to sell us on a cheap, simple-minded Christianity. How hard is the path we've taken? Our faith will do just fine in difficulty provided we love the benefits of obedience more than the benefits of disobedience.

Walters is member of Temple Church, Hattiesburg.

Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.



Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

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All news items are subject to editing,

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Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. Requests to return photographs must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

THE VILLAGE VIEW



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Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of **The Village View** is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful, and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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It is with sincere gratitude during Minister's Appreciation Month that The Baptist Children's Village extends a special "Thank you" to all ministers for your willingness to follow God's call and to spend your life serving Him and others. We have been especially blessed by your involvement in our ministry to children and teens. May God bless you in the same way you have blessed us.

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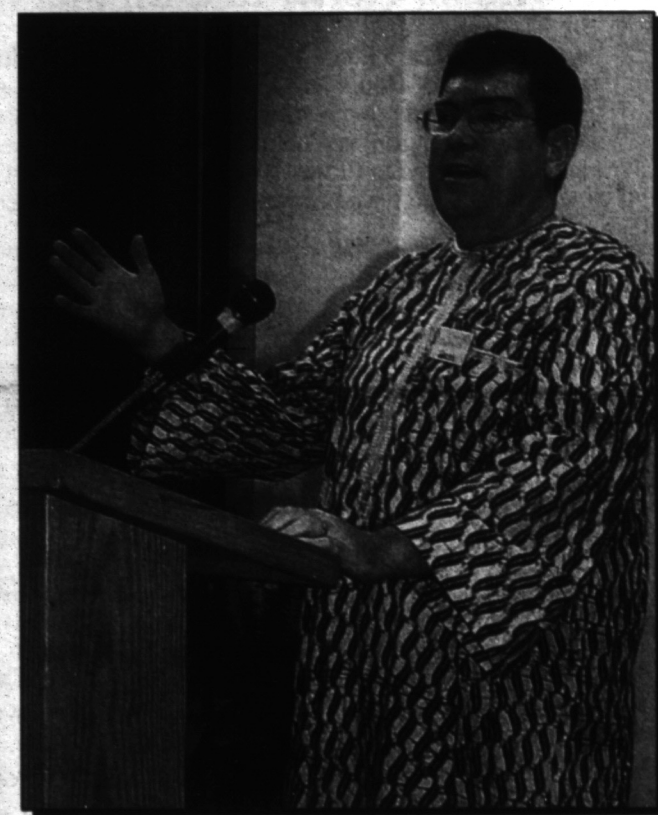
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Photos by William H. Perkins Jr.

